



COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center

SOP No: MS-128

Date of Last Revision: 04/08/22

Standard Operating Procedure Patients with Pets

Subject: Patients with Pets in Medical Sheltering

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to provide guidance to Medical Shelter Site Management on managing and caring for patients with pets on site.

2. Process

- **Facility Layout**

- Pre-determine the best outside location where patients with dogs may take their dogs to both exercise and relieve themselves. Ideally this location will contain some grass or dirt.

- **Supplies**

- Site Management shall maintain stock of basic shelf stable pet supplies for both cats and dogs. Supplies include:
 - Dog food
 - Cat food
 - Pee pads
 - Collar & leash
 - Litter box + litter

- **Procedures**

- When a referral occurs for a patient being admitted with an animal, select a first floor room, if possible. This will allow for a simpler step for pets relieving themselves if needed.

- When a room commitment has been made for a patient with pet, do a pet-pass on the room to check for anything that may harm or allow for the pet to escape (any holes in window screens, exposed wires etc.)
- Each room should have a white board on the outside of door. When a patient arrives with a pet, note on the whiteboard what animal is present. This will alert any clinical personnel visiting the room to be cautious when opening the door and taking vitals.